Remarks

The specification amendments are made solely to comply with the sequence requirements, and introduce no new matter. Accordingly, entry of the amendments is respectfully requested.

Oath/Declaration

Enclosed is a properly signed declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63. Also enclosed is a Power of Attorney.

Compliance with Sequence Rules

Enclosed herewith is a paper copy and a computer readable (diskette) form of the sequence listing. The content of the sequence listing information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written (paper) sequence listing enclosed herewith. The sequence listing presents no new matter. Please enter the sequence listing into the application.

The specification amendments are also provided to refer to the SEQ ID NOs when the sequences are discussed.

Fee payment

Applicant asserts small entity status. Enclosed is a check for $544 to cover the following fees:

Filing fee - $370

Fee for 6 claims over 20 ($9 each) - $54

Late declaration surcharge - $65

One month extension of time - $55

Total $544.

Authorization is hereby given to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment, or charge any additional extension of time fee necessary to preserve the pendency of the subject application to Deposit Account No. 01-1785.

Conclusion

Applicant believes that, with this filing, all preliminary matters are resolved. Applicant therefore requests that this application proceed to examination. If there are any minor matters preventing examination of this case, applicant requests that the PTO contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 16, 2002
New York, New York

By _____
Elie H. Gendloff,
Reg. No.: 44,704

Marked-Up Specification Amendments - U.S. Patent Application No. 10/014,320
Additions are underlined. There are no deletions.

Paragraph 30, on page 9:

Figure 9 depicts the nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO:1) and corresponding amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:2) for ebaf.

Paragraph 70, on page 27-28:

The *ebaf* (*lefty-A*) cDNA was originally cloned in a pBluescript^{R} SK^{-} vector. A forward primer (5'-AGAATTCAAGATGTGGCCCCTGTGGCTCTGCTGGGC-3' - SEQ ID NO:3) and the reverse primer (5'-TTCTAGACTATGGCTGGAGCCTCCTTGGCACGAGCGCCCC-3' - SEQ ID NO:4) were used to amplify the coding region of *ebaf* with the 3' proofreading polymerase, Pfu (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA). The PCR products were separated in 1% agarose gel, and purified with a Geneclean kit (Bio101, LA Jolla, CA). The PCR products and the plasmids (pcDNA3 or HA-pcDNA3) were digested with EcoRI and XbaI (New England Lab, Beverly, MA). The fragments were annealed to a mammalian expression plasmid (pcDNA3 or HA-pcDNA3) with a Rapid Ligation Kit (Stratagene, CA). The sequence of the selected clone was validated by restriction enzyme digestion and by sequencing using Taq DyeDeoxy terminator cycle sequencing reactions in conjunction with an Applied Biosystems model 373 DNA Sequencer. The plasmid DNAs containing the correct cDNA sequence insertions were prepared using the Promega Wizard Miniprep Method (Promega, Madison, WI), and used for transfection.

Paragraph 71, on page 28:

The N-glycosylation site of ebaf (amino acid residue 57) was point mutated to "D" using QuikChange^{Tm} 1-Day Site-Directed Mutagenesis kit (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA), following the manufacturer's protocol. The primers were DRTS-F: 5'-GCGTCCGCGACGACGGCTCCGACCGCACCTCCCTCATCGACTCC-3' (SEQ ID NO:5); DRTR-R: 5'-GGAGTCGATGAGGGAGGTGCGGTCGGAGCCGTCGTCGCGGACGC-3' (SEQ ID NO:6). The sequences of all point-mutated clones were determined by Taq DyeDeoxy terminator cycle-sequencing reactions, in conjunction with an Applied Biosystems model 373 DNA Sequencer.